



218 Kensington Road

1850

Ledge School

3rd school building at this location

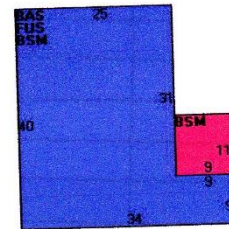
1985 Townwide Historic and Architectural Survey of Berlin, Connecticut. Survey # 068

1850 Ledge School current owner: Town of Berlin Community Art League

2018 Town of Berlin GIS Index.

1850 Current owner: Town of Berlin

Sketch



3rd ledge school building on this site

1st built in 1790.

3rd 1850 - closed 1910, reopened 1920-1955



HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES
 HIST-6 NEW 5/77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
 CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
 (203) 566-3005

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.:
UTM	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT	IF NR. SPECIFY
<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> NR	<input type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Potential

IDENTIFICATION		DESCRIPTION	
1. BUILDING NAME (Common)		1. BUILDING NAME (Historic)	
Community Art League		Ledge School	
2. TOWN CITY	VILLAGE	COUNTY	
Berlin	Kensington	Hartford	
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)		9-3/54/27	
218 Kensington Road			
4. OWNER(S)		6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Town of Berlin, Town Hall, Kensington, CT 06037		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private	
5. USE (Present)		5. USE (Historic)	
Art Center		School	
7. STYLE OF BUILDING		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	
19th century vernacular		c. 1850	
8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clapboard <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> foundation <input type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone <input type="checkbox"/> brownstone foundation <input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten <input type="checkbox"/> Stucco <input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone <input type="checkbox"/> Cut stone Type: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Type: _____			
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood frame <input type="checkbox"/> Post and beam <input type="checkbox"/> balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Load bearing masonry <input type="checkbox"/> Structural iron or steel <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____			
10. ROOF (Type)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gable <input type="checkbox"/> Flat <input type="checkbox"/> Mansard <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor <input type="checkbox"/> sawtooth <input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input type="checkbox"/> Hip <input type="checkbox"/> Round <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ (Material) <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Roll Asphalt <input type="checkbox"/> Tin <input type="checkbox"/> Slate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gable end to the street <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asphalt shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Built up <input type="checkbox"/> Tile <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Ridge parallel to the street			
11. NUMBER OF STORIES		APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS	
2		25' x 40'	
12. CONDITION (Structural)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated			
13. INTEGRITY (Location)		13. INTEGRITY (Alterations)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site <input type="checkbox"/> Moved WHEN * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No IF YES, EXPLAIN		Enlarged, late 19th century	
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES			
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input type="checkbox"/> Garage <input type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Carriage house <input type="checkbox"/> Shop <input type="checkbox"/> Garden			
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT			
<input type="checkbox"/> Open land <input type="checkbox"/> Wood-land <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Indus-trial <input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input type="checkbox"/> High building density			
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS			
On a large lot just east of the modern Town Hall.			

#68

DESCRIPTION (Continued)	17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior)	
	<p>The facade of the Ledge School is treated as a single large bay. The trabeated entry has a glazed transom and a fixed six-pane sidelight to the right. The entry has square chamfered pilasters, a wide entablature with a central molding, and a prominent molded cap. Above is a paired window fitted with a similar entablature and cap. The heavily molded main roof cornice shows a partial return at the gable ends. At the right side of the facade is a rectangular stair tower. Side elevation windows are grouped near the rear of the building. There is a modern steel fire stair at the rear of the left elevation. The rear elevation shows a blank wall with a partial return of the main roof cornice. Windows on all elevations are generally fitted with oversized 6-over-6 sash.</p>	
SIGNIFICANCE	18. ARCHITECT	BUILDER
	19. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE	
<p>Although a simple vernacular structure with some Greek Revival overtones, the Ledge School is historically significant as a survivor from the early years of Berlin education. Probably built as a small district school in the mid 19th-century, the Ledge School was remodelled late in the 19th century in an attempt to keep pace with the rapid pace of Kensington's growth. The stair tower is a good indicator of the building's likely origin as a one-story structure; a building originally built as a two story structure probably would not have adopted this awkward arrangement. Ultimately, even this school was unable to keep up with Kensington's growth during the peak years of immigration. The Ledge School was abandoned in 1910 when the Kensington Grammar School was completed.</p>		
SOURCES	<p>1855 Atlas 1869 Atlas Berlin Town Reports</p>	
PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER	DATE
	HRC	1
COMPILED BY	VIEW	NEGATIVE ON FILE
	NW	A0A
COMPILED BY	NAME	1
	<p>Historic Resource Consultants The Colt Armory 65 Van Dyke Avenue Hartford, Connecticut 06106</p>	
20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS		
21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None known <input type="checkbox"/> Highways <input type="checkbox"/> Vandalism		

